

Top Secret

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLEWednesday May 26, 1976 CI NIDC 76-124C

State Department review completed



NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Wednesday May 26, 1976.

[redacted] The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

LEBANON

[redacted] Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt reportedly will meet with president-elect Sarkis within the next two days to discuss Sarkis' peace plan.

[redacted] Jumblatt has made clear that he wants "fighters"--presumably the heads of various militias--to participate in the negotiations instead of traditional politicians. Jumblatt reportedly also favors holding the negotiations outside Lebanon. He previously has mentioned Paris as a possible venue but may have changed his mind since the uproar in Muslim circles over France's recent offer to send troops to Lebanon.

[redacted] Although Jumblatt may be somewhat flexible on these issues, he will be uncompromising in his demand that President Franjiah resign before the formal implementation of a truce. The leftists believe that military pressure is the only way to effect Franjiah's departure, and they will not publicly renounce the use of force--as Sarkis has proposed--until the President has stepped down.

[redacted] //A US embassy official who visited Christian headquarters last weekend found the Christians divided and deeply confused on the issue of Franjiah's departure. Many apparently are sympathetic to Franjiah's refusal to resign and have little appreciation of the detrimental effect on Sarkis of further delay. Others seem to recognize that Franjiah's procrastination is undermining the Christians' victory in electing Sarkis and is eroding his effectiveness as an arbitor.//

[redacted] //Interior Minister Shamun and several of Franjiah's close advisers are primarily responsible for encouraging

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the President's stubbornness.// President Giscard's offer to send French forces has also encouraged Franjiyah's hope that outsiders will eventually come to his aid.

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[REDACTED] //The embassy believes that the attitude of the Order of Maronite Monks may have significant influence on Franjiyah's final decision. The monks have always had some influence with the Christian leadership, especially the Phalangists; this has grown substantially with the intensification of fighting between religious communities.//

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ANGOLA

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[REDACTED] Three months after the end of large-scale fighting, Angola's economy remains in serious disarray, and the Neto government is having difficulty maintaining law and order.

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[REDACTED] even in Luanda assaults and armed robberies have made most streets unsafe by day as well as night. Much of the banditry and violence apparently is the work of hastily recruited, heavily armed soldiers who have never been under the full control of the Popular Movement leadership.//

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[REDACTED] //A worsening food shortage is aggravating the security situation. Fresh food is virtually unavailable in the major towns, partly because of the total collapse of the country's transportation system. Workers at former Portuguese plantations reportedly are neglecting commercial food production in favor of subsistence farming.//

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[REDACTED] //Medicine is in extremely short supply. Diseases--ranging from malnutrition to tuberculosis--are reportedly reaching serious proportions in some areas.//

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[] //The violence and economic problems are intensifying long-standing animosities between Angolan blacks and mulattos. Some poor blacks are said to be focusing their resentment on the Cuban expeditionary force as well as on the mulatto-dominated Popular Movement leadership.//

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[] President Neto and other Angolan leaders have been exhorting workers to return to their jobs but with little apparent effect so far. The continuing factional struggle within the Popular Movement doubtless hampers efforts to deal with Angola's problems.

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GREECE

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[] Violent clashes took place throughout Athens yesterday between police and leftists protesting the proposed new labor law. Clashes also occurred yesterday on the islands of Mykonos and Rhodes. Leftist demonstrations on Rhodes prevented shore visits by personnel from US naval ships.

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[] The government responded firmly in the Athens disturbances, showing Prime Minister Caramanlis' desire to beat back

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what has become the first real challenge from the left since the restoration of democratic rule in 1974. Probably wishing to avoid further violence on Rhodes following two days of leftist protests, the government asked that the ships leave this morning and they did.

25X1 [] The clashes in Athens, arising out of a 48-hour strike called by militant unionists in an effort to block passage of the labor bill, resulted in one death, numerous injuries, and dozens of arrests. The violence began when police moved against radical groups marching on parliament.

25X1 [] Demonstrators subsequently dispersed to various parts of the city, setting up roadblocks and starting fires. The pattern of their attacks--a pro-government newspaper, the ministries of public order and social services, and a police precinct were hit--suggests pre-planning and careful organization.

25X1 [] The government expressed its regrets over the incidents in an official announcement and government spokesmen charged that a "minority," meaning the left, was attempting to dictate the country's foreign and domestic policies.

25X1 [] Indications that the incidents yesterday may have been a deliberate leftist effort to test the government's will rather than spontaneous protests may persuade Caramanlis to move away from middle-of-the-road policies designed to portray him as the leader of all Greeks and to adopt a more rightist course.

25X1 [] Such a move could lead to polarization of political forces, but it would find favor in the military where some supporters of the junta will undoubtedly see yesterday's violence as confirming their belief that Caramanlis has paved the way for Communists and anarchists. []

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SPAIN

25X1 [] The reform program supported by King Juan Carlos passed its first test yesterday when Spain's Cortes passed a bill lifting requirements for government approval of political meetings and demonstrations.

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[] The new law allows political meetings to be held as long as the organizers notify the local civil governor 72 hours in advance. In theory, all gatherings of 20 or more people heretofore needed a police permit, but in recent months this restriction has been relaxed, especially for indoor meetings.

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[] The law falls short of the demands of the yet-to-be legalized opposition parties who want complete freedom to meet and demonstrate without any notification process.

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[] The law is the least controversial of the bills submitted by the government as part of its reform program, but the large majority by which it was approved in the Cortes suggests that the other bills will also be approved. Bills awaiting action in the Cortes are:

--Legalization of political parties except for Communists, terrorists, or separatists.

--Revision of penal code restrictions that were a basis for action against political gatherings.

--Provision for a referendum amending the constitution to create a bicameral legislature with the lower house elected directly and the upper house by modified direct election, and the reform of the official labor organization.

Finally, a new electoral law is to be submitted by June 15 to complete the reform program.

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SINGAPORE CHINA

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[] Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's recent two-week visit to China will enhance his prestige at home and among Singapore's partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

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[] Peking understood before Lee arrived that Singapore would not develop special ties with China because of Singapore's predominantly Chinese population. Lee spoke in English throughout his visit, presumably to underscore Singapore's distinctive national identity, and emphasized that its geographic position requires close relations with the ASEAN nations.

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[] Peking gave Lee a cordial reception. The Chinese did not challenge Lee's reiteration that Singapore will not be ready for diplomatic ties with China this year, but both sides agreed that they could develop closer trade and cultural relations in spite of differing political viewpoints.

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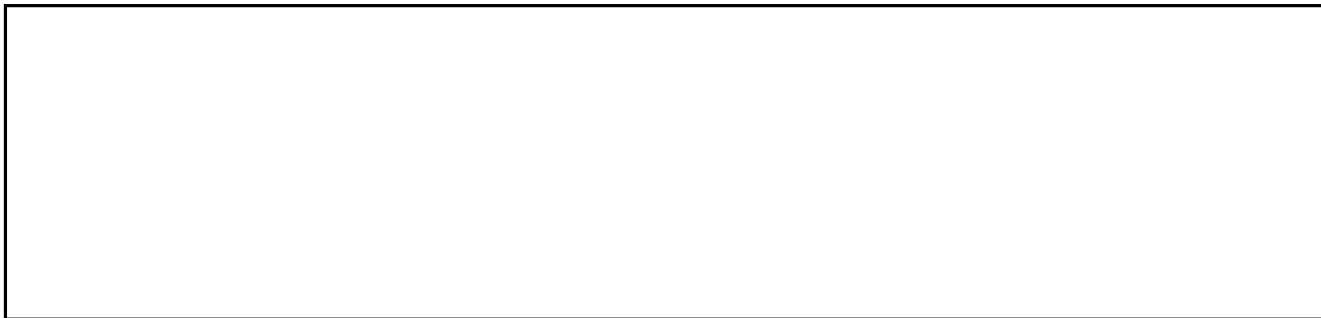
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[redacted] Premier Hua Kuo-feng's favorable comments on ASEAN's zone of neutrality concept at a banquet for Lee will be welcomed in Singapore and the other ASEAN countries. These comments might have been made to any visiting ASEAN leader, but their publication during Lee's visit should enhance his standing among his regional colleagues.

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SUDAN

[redacted] The seventh anniversary celebration of President Numayri's take-over passed without incident. [redacted]

[redacted] In his anniversary speech, Numayri dwelt on developments in neighboring Ethiopia, underscoring Khartoum's fears that the Ethiopian government's planned offensive against the Eritreans would spill over into Sudan. He said that Sudan "cannot remain passive" while the Eritreans were threatened with destruction.

[redacted] Numayri called on the Ethiopian government to refrain from any military operations and urged the Eritreans to give serious consideration to Addis Ababa's peace proposals of mid-May. [redacted]

ANGOLA

[redacted] Radio Moscow announced yesterday the conclusion of talks between Soviet leaders and the high-level Angolan government delegation that arrived in the USSR on Monday. The announcement said the talks were held in an atmosphere of "complete mutual understanding," but shed little light on their substance.

[redacted] General Secretary Brezhnev, Premier Kosygin, Foreign Minister Gromyko, and Defense Minister Ustinov headed the list of senior Soviet officials who met with the Angolan delegation, led by Prime Minister Nascimento. The participation of Ustinov in the discussions, along with top Soviet foreign trade and aid officials, indicated that military and economic assistance questions were high on the agenda.



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[] In his speech at the welcoming banquet for Nascimento, Kosygin reaffirmed Moscow's strong support for the Popular Movement government in Luanda and for the liberation struggle in southern Africa.

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[] Repeating a theme President Podgorny used in his welcoming toast last week for Mozambican President Machel, Kosygin stressed that "detente" and support for revolutionary movements are not incompatible and that improved East-West relations serve to accelerate the liberation process.

Machel Visit

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[] The lengthy communique issued Monday after President Machel's six-day visit suggested that both Moscow and Maputo are pleased with the results.

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[] In unusually warm terms, the communique praised Soviet-Mozambican relations and called for an expansion and intensification of cooperation between the two countries based on "revolutionary solidarity." The Soviets agreed to provide increased--although unspecified--economic and technical assistance to Mozambique as well as the means for strengthening its "defense capabilities."

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[] Machel proclaimed Mozambique's support for standard Soviet positions on "detente," the Middle East, the Indian Ocean, and other international subjects.

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[] The Soviets almost certainly calculate that Machel's visit will provide opportunities to increase Soviet influence--at Peking's expense--with Mozambique, with other black states in southern Africa, and with Rhodesian insurgents based in Mozambique.

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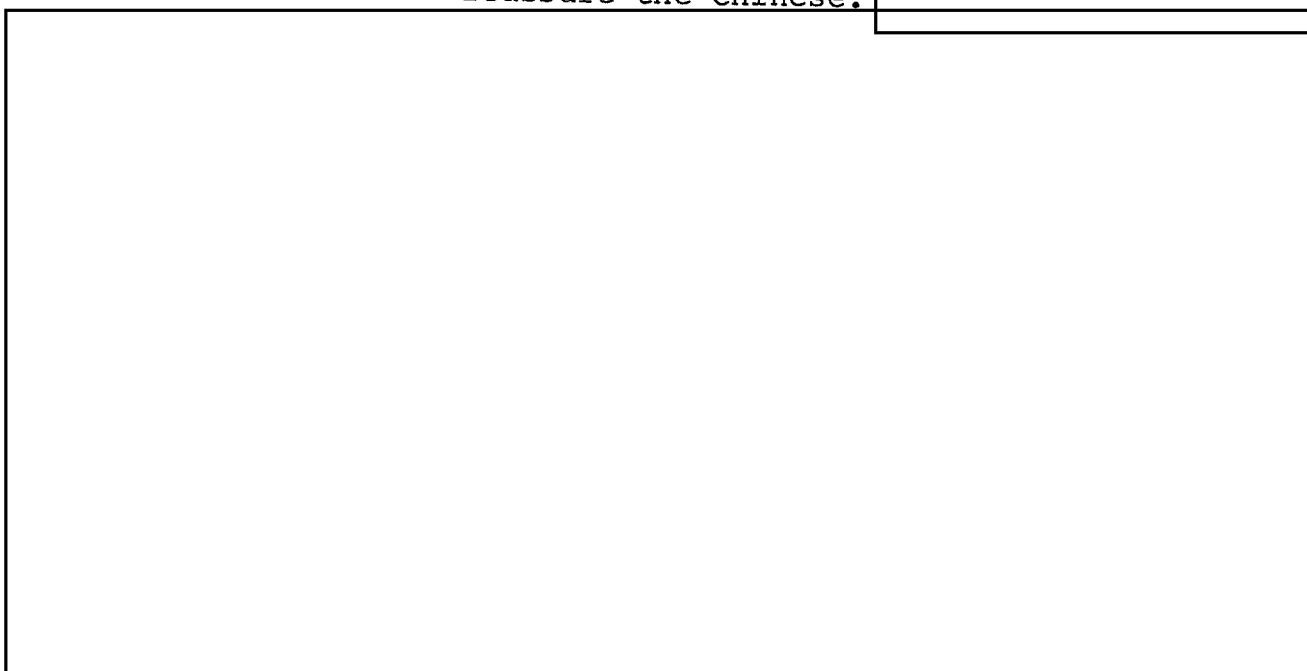
[] The Chinese are sure to be displeased with Machel's trip to Moscow and with his support in the communique for basic Soviet foreign policy positions. Machel has sought to assure the Chinese that he is not leaning too far in the Kremlin's direction. The Mozambican press gave prominent coverage to Machel's meeting with the Chinese ambassador just before Machel left for Moscow; Machel also spent considerable time with Peking's charge at an official diplomatic reception in Moscow last week.

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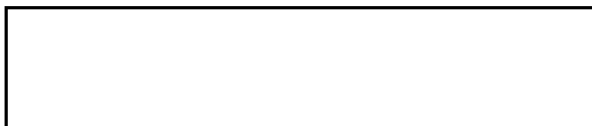
[redacted] Moreover Machel almost certainly requested the language in the final communique which said that bilateral relations must be based on complete equality and "non-interference" in each other's domestic matters, a formulation which may have been intended to reassure the Chinese.

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